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"We've drifted away from being fishers of men to being keepers of the aquarium."
[Paul Harvey]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

Share about an experience when something exceeded your expectations greatly. How did that cause you to feel or react?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*"In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning
I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation."*
[Psalm 5:3]

BIG IDEA

Jesus invites us into greater expectations for what He wants to do in our lives and through our story!

PASSAGE

- Luke 5:1-11

DISCUSSION

1. What has held you back from cooperating with what God wants to do in your own life? (i.e. looking foolish, comfort, self-reliance, shame)
2. What does Simon Peter's willingness to obey Jesus despite his fatigue and prior failure teach us about trust and obedience?
3. How can we identify moments when God is calling us to "put out into deep water" in our own lives? What might that moment be for you right now?
4. The canvas for God's glory is for us to admit our weaknesses. In what way(s) do you currently feel small and/or weak? Let's submit those to the Lord together so He can empower us!
5. What are some ways we can respond when we feel unworthy, like Peter did, in the presence of God's holiness?
6. How can we support one another to have the courage to follow Jesus' calling, even when it requires significant life changes?
7. How does Jesus' promise to make Simon Peter a "fisher of men" resonate with our mission as Christians today?

8. How can we cultivate a deeper sense of humility in our walk with Christ, similar to Peter's reaction to the miracle?
9. How can we discern when to act on faith despite our doubts, as Peter did when he let down the nets?
10. What are some modern-day "nets" that we might need to let down in obedience to Jesus' instructions?
11. How can we effectively share the experiences of God's work in our lives with others to encourage their faith?
12. In what ways can we be more attentive to Jesus' presence and direction in the everyday moments of our lives?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

We have been filled with the same Spirit as the first disciples for the mission of being fishers of men, seizing opportunities to share Christ with others! The first step is to surrender whatever is holding us back from embracing this mission more fully. Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting today, **what is a step of obedience that you can take?** Here are a few areas to consider leaving behind so you can embrace Jesus' invitation to being a participant in His mission ...

- Wrong beliefs
- Doubts or fears
- Lack of abilities
- Time constraints
- Relying on your own understanding

PRAYER FOCUS

Being "Fishers of Men"

- Thank you God for calling us to be fishers of men and inviting us to join your mission. Fill us with your Spirit, giving us the courage and wisdom to share your love and truth.
- Help us to see opportunities to reach out to others with compassion and grace. May our words and actions draw people to you, reflecting your love and transforming lives!

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE *Optional*

Welcoming Prayer is an invitation to welcome everything, knowing that everything that happens to us is something we can learn and grow from. It also helps us consent to God's presence and action in our physical and emotional reactions to anything that happens to us and around us. Give it a try!

- [Welcoming Prayer](https://www.rockbridge.cc/welcoming-prayer) or [rockbridge.cc/welcoming-prayer](https://www.rockbridge.cc/welcoming-prayer)